

The Office of Independent Counsel uses the grand jury system. It is a system that any one of us could be using by way of the process in local communities, where by some unfortunate circumstances one is arrested and there is a grand jury proceeding and then possibly a trial, that grand jury documentation is never released to the public. In fact, Mr. Timothy McVeigh, well-known for the allegations and charges and then conviction of bombing the Oklahoma building, 168 people dead, none of the grand jury testimony in that proceeding was ever released.

So when this is played out in the public arena, it looks as if we have strident Democrats, some say political hacks, and the white-hat-wearing Republicans who want the people to know everything.

I do not want to be either, and this process by the Founding Fathers was not made to be any of that. It was given to us in trust because we are the representatives of the people. The President is elected by the people. Yet in this Committee on the Judiciary we cannot get a unanimous vote on accepting the Fifth Amendment as a guiding principle of what we would be doing; the rights of the accused to protect them in their life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), says that the President in his guiding principles is not above the law, and I say he is absolutely right, but he is not below the law as well. He said he would be guided by the letter and the spirit of the constitution and yet in this hybrid process he has released willy-nilly the proceedings of the grand jury testimony.

We have a very important responsibility. It is frivolous, Mr. Speaker, that we would think in 2 days we can make a decision on an impeachment inquiry.

My challenge to America is to recognize the freedom in which we live and that democracy will only be preserved if we preserve it in the Committee on the Judiciary and treat everyone fairly.

U.S.-INDIA RELATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to talk about several important issues affecting the relationship between the two largest democracies in the world, that is the United States and India.

Yesterday, Congress took an important step towards getting those relations back in a positive direction. The House-Senate Conference on Agricultural Appropriations approved a provision that would give the President authority to waive sanctions that were imposed on both India and Pakistan as a result of the nuclear tests that those countries conducted earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, it is important and necessary to provide the President with proper sanction waiver authority so that he may have more flexibility in negotiating with India and Pakistan.

Pursuant to the Glenn amendment to the Arms Export Control Act, the President was required to invoke severe economic sanctions after the nuclear tests in May. These unilateral sanctions prohibit a variety of commercial and technical transactions between the United States and India. U.S.-India economic relations were growing in a positive direction at the time of the tests. In fact, the U.S. was India's largest trading partner.

The sanctions that were imposed after the nuclear tests have disrupted a variety of bilateral assistance programs, including technical support for the development of financial institutions and other market reforms. These reforms offer short- and long-term opportunities for U.S. companies, large and small, to gain greater entry into India's vast consumer market and to help meet India's significant infrastructure improvement needs.

Under the unilateral sanctions, we stand to lose many of these opportunities. In addition, the sanctions require the U.S. to block international financial institutions from making loans to India.

The sanctions have not achieved the desired result, namely gaining India's support for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. However, several rounds of negotiations between our deputy Secretary of State, Strobe Talbott, and the special envoy of India's Prime Minister Vajpayee, Mr. Jaswant Singh, have shown significant progress.

Giving President Clinton the authority to waive sanctions in exchange for significant agreements for India, as well as Pakistan, will help to move forward the process and ultimately enhance our nuclear non-proliferation efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I was joined by 21 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle in this body in sending a letter to the conferees, to the ag conferees, urging them to support this important sanctions waiver provision, and I congratulate the conferees for approving this provision last night.

Yesterday evening, India's Prime Minister Vajpayee left the United States after a brief visit to New York that included a significant speech before the United Nations, as well as a meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Prime Minister Sharif. Prime Minister Vajpayee's speech to the U.N. General Assembly provided a positive foundation for improving U.S.-India relations.

I was also heartened by the new chapter in India-Pakistan ties signalled by Thursday's meeting between the two prime ministers of India and Pakistan.

By expressing India's readiness to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Prime Minister Vajpayee has helped

to vastly improve the climate and relations between the United States and India.

I hope our administration will redouble its efforts to work with the Indian government to achieve results on nuclear proliferation of other issues.

I was also very encouraged by the outcome of the Indian and Pakistani prime ministers' meeting, particularly with regard to peacefully settling the Kashmir issue establishing better communications between the two governments and increasing economic and trade cooperation.

I agree that these issues, particularly the Kashmir issue, should be addressed on a bilateral basis between the two countries.

The prime minister of India's appeal for a concerted international plan to combat terrorism and safeguard human rights is consistent with American views on these issues and deserves the support of the United States and the international community. In fact, the leadership that the prime minister expressed on all of these issues points to the importance of finally granting India a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council.

Besides the obvious justification for this step, the fact that India has one-sixth of the world's population and has contributed significantly to U.N. peacekeeping efforts, India offers a model for developing countries based on democracy and tolerance and as the prime minister's speech showed yesterday, India has important ideas on global stability issues that the rest of the world should listen to.

I have sponsored legislation expressing support for India's bid to become a permanent member of the Security Council and I hope that the prime minister's visit will add momentum to that effort. I also hope that the progress we have seen in the last few days creates the conditions to allow President Clinton's trip to South Asia to go forward in the near future.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to remind my colleagues here and the American people of an important milestone. October 2, this Friday, is the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, who led India's independence effort. I mention Gandhi's birthday because this House recently approved legislation, that I cosponsored with my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM), that would authorize the government of India to establish a memorial to honor Mahatma Gandhi in Washington, D.C. There is similar legislation pending in the Senate, and I hope our colleagues in the other body will approve that legislation, ideally in time for the commemoration of Gandhi's birthday on Friday, and as another expression of friendship between our two countries.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. NORTON) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DIXON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CAPPS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TURNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BERRY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HULSHOF, for 5 minutes, on October 2.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. NORTON) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. LEVIN.

Mr. KIND.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii.

Mrs. LOWEY.

Mr. LUTHER.

Mr. GEJDENSON.

Mr. VISCLOSKY.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) and to include extraneous material:)

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH.

Mr. LAZIO.

Mr. HORN.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 40 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, October 1, 1998, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

[Omitted from Record of September 28, 1998]

11337. A letter from the Committee on the Judiciary, transmitting the preliminary memorandum of the President of the United States concerning the Referral of the Office

of the Independent Counsel and the initial response of the President of the United States to the Referral of the Office of the Independent Counsel; (H. Doc. No. 105-317); and ordered to be printed.

11340. A letter from the Office of the Independent Counsel, Kenneth W. Starr, transmitting supplemental materials to the Referral to the United States House of Representatives pursuant to title 28, United States Code, section 595(c) submitted by the Office of the Independent Counsel, September 9, 1998; (H. Doc. No. 105-316); to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

11338. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Tangelos Grown in Florida; Limiting the Volume of Small Red Seedless Grapefruit [Docket No. FV98-905-4 IFR] received September 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

11339. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Continuous Chilling of Split Poultry Portions [Docket No. 95-011F] (RIN: 0583-AB95) received September 28, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

[Submitted September 29, 1998]

11341. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Employment History, Verification and Criminal History Records Check [Docket No. 28859; Amendment No. 107-12, 108-17] (RIN: 2120-AG32) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11342. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A321 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-246-AD; Amendment 39-10750; AD 98-19-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11343. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Hazardous Materials Regulations; Editorial Corrections and Clarifications [Docket No. RSPA-98-4404 (HM-189 0)] (RIN: 2137-AD27) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11344. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Lafourche Bayou, LA [CGD08-98-062—and—CGD08-98-052] (RIN: 2115-AE47) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11345. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model DHC-8-102, -103, -106, -201, -202, -301, -311, and -315 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-172-AD; Amendment 39-10781; AD 98-20-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11346. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Technical Amendments; Organizational Changes; Miscellaneous Editorial Changes and Conforming Amendments [USCG-1998-4442] (RIN: 2115-ZZ02) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11347. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; CFM International CFM56-7B and -7B/2 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 98-ANE-55-AD; Amendment 39-10761; AD 98-19-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11348. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Saab Model SAAB 340B Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-176-AD; Amendment 39-10782; AD 98-20-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11349. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-206-AD; Amendment 39-10783; AD 98-20-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11350. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-257-AD; Amendment 39-10788; AD 98-20-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11351. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Dornier Model 328-100 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-162-AD; Amendment 39-10779; AD 98-20-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11352. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A319, A320, and A321 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-61-AD; Amendment 39-10777; AD 98-20-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11353. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace (Jetstream) Model 4101 Airplanes [Docket No. 97-NM-339-AD; Amendment 39-10776; AD 98-20-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11354. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC-9-10, -20, -30, -40, and -50 Series Airplanes and C-9 (Military) Airplanes [Docket No. 96-NM-244-AD; Amendment 39-10775; AD 98-20-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11355. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-169-AD; Amendment 39-10780; AD 98-20-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 26, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

11356. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airspace Designations; Incorporation By Reference